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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,128	06/06/2005	Jong-Yub Sa	DSP-PT009	1363
3624 7590 07/30/2007 VOLPE AND KOENIG, P.C. UNITED PLAZA, SUITE 1600 30 SOUTH 17TH STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			EXAMINER MANSKAR, KRISTEN	
			ART UNIT 2875	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/30/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,128

Applicant(s)

SA, JONG-YUB

Examiner

Kristen A. Manskar

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 June 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/6/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "400" has been used to designate both diffuser and prism plate.
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 212, 220a, and 220b.
3. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Abstract***

4. The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

### ***Claim Objections***

5. Claims 2, 3, 7, and 23 are objected to as being indefinite. The terms "predetermined" and "specific" do not clearly define the invention. Claim 10 is objected to for the misspelling of "convex." Appropriate correction is required.
6. Claim 21 is objected to for being a duplicate claim of 20 and will not be allowed in view thereof. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. **Claims 1-6, 8-10, 14-19, and 23** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jenkins, et al. (Patent 6,099,156), hereafter referred to as Jenkins.
9. With respect to claim 1, Jenkins discloses a lamp for a vehicle (see Abstract) comprising: a housing (14) having an opening through which light radiates; a light transmitting cover member (22) which has a light incidence plane and a light exit plane (Figure 14), and is fixedly installed on the housing to hermetically cover the opening of the housing and provided with a lens pattern formed on the light incidence plane and or the light exit plane so that radiating light can have a predetermined pattern (Column 5, Lines 22-43); a plate shaped light guide panel which is installed within the housing (44), has a light incidence plane defined at a side surface thereof to receive light and a light exit plane defined at a front surface thereof to face the cover member (Figure 1), and is provided with a scattering pattern for scattering light incident on the light incidence

plane toward the light exit plane (Figure 1); a light source (46) installed adjacent to the light incident plane of the light guide panel to emit light to the light incidence plane of the light guide panel; and a reflection plate (36) installed on a rear surface of the light guide panel to reflect light toward the light exit plane of the light guide panel.

10. Regarding claim 2, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein the lens pattern formed on the light incidence plane or the light exit plane of the cover member comprises a plurality of grooves each of which has a semicircular cross-section and a predetermined length (Figures 8, 13, and 14; Column 11, Lines 3-14).

11. With respect to claim 3, while Jenkins does not explicitly disclose a lamp wherein the lens pattern formed on the light incidence plane or light exit plane of the cover member comprises a plurality of protruding half cylinders each of which has a semicircular cross-section and a predetermined length, the applicant does note in the Specification, Page 12 that a obvious alternative would be a plurality of hemispherical protrusions or recesses (see claims 4 and 5 below).

12. With respect to claim 4, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein the lens pattern formed on the light incidence plane and or the light exit plane comprises a plurality of hemispherical recesses (Figure 16, see grooves noted by reference number 254).

13. Regarding claim 5, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein the lens pattern is formed on the light incidence plane and/or the light exit plane of the cover member comprising a plurality of hemispherical protrusions (Figure 16, see grooves noted by reference number 254).

14. In regard to claim 6, Jenkins discloses a lamp further comprising a light-transmitting diffuser provided between the cover member and the light guide panel to

diffuse the light irradiated from the light exit plane of the light guide panel (Column 5, Line 59- Column 6, Line 10).

15. Jenkins discloses the lamp of claim 8, wherein a portion of the light incidence plane of the cover member is formed with a reflection pattern (252) to reflect external light incident on the light exit plane of the cover member.

16. With respect to claim 9, Jenkins discloses a lamp further comprising an inverter for supplying electric power to the light source (34); wherein the housing has an inverter-receiving space formed at a portion thereof facing the reflection plate to receive the inverter (Figure 1; Column 4, Line 63- Column 5, Line 15). Note that the "inverter" of Jenkins enables the user to control the intensity or change the voltage of power provided to the LEDs within the system.

17. Jenkins discloses the lamp of claim 10, wherein the scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel comprises a plurality of convex-concave portions formed on a surface thereof opposite to the light exit plane of the light guide panel (Column 9, Lines 13-40).

18. Regarding claim 14, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein the light exit plane of the light guide panel is formed convexly (Figure 1).

19. With respect to claims 15 and 18, Jenkins discloses a lamp further comprising a second light guide panel which has a convex shape and is stacked on the light exit plane of the light guide panel (Column 8, Lines 23-50), wherein an additionally light source is installed in the vicinity of a light incidence plane of the stacked second light guide panel (Column 8, Lines 17-22).

20. Regarding claims 16 and 20, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein light transmitting filters having specific colors are additionally installed between the light incidence plane of the light guide panels and the light sources respectively (Column 4, Lines 34-41).

21. With respect to claims 17 and 19, Jenkins disclose a lamp wherein the scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel and a scattering pattern formed on the second panel are provided at regions that do not overlap each other (Column 6, Lines 31-45).

22. With respect to claim 22, Jenkins disclose a lamp wherein a portion of the light incidence plane of the cover member is formed with a reflection pattern to reflect external light incident on the light exit plane of the cover member (252, 256).

23. Regarding claim 23, Jenkins discloses a lamp wherein a plurality of the light sources are installed in the vicinity of the light incidence plane of the light guide panel (Column 4, Lines 41-60), and light transmitting filters having specific colors are additionally provided between the light guide panel and the respective light sources (Column 4, Lines 34-41).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

24. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

25. **Claim 7** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jenkins in view of Thrasher, et al. (Patent 6,241, 361) hereafter referred to as Thrasher.

26. While Jenkins discloses a means for sealing the light assembly, Jenkins is silent to a lamp with a screen plate which takes the shape of a hoop with a predetermined width and is provided between the cover member and the light source along an outer periphery of the cover member so that the light source cannot be viewed through the cover member.

27. Thrasher discloses a lamp assembly wherein a screen plate takes the shape of a hoop with a predetermined width and is provided between the cover member and the light source along an outer periphery of the cover member so that the light source cannot be viewed through the cover member (Figure 2, reference number 26).

28. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the hoop configuration of Thrasher in the lamp of Jenkins for the benefit of sealing and securing the lamp to a housing.

29. **Claims 11-13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jenkins in view of Nakano (PG Pub 2004/0052079) hereafter referred to as Nakano.

30. With respect to claim 11, Jenkins is silent to a lamp comprising a scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel comprising a plurality of dots printed on a surface opposite to the light exit plane of the light guide panel.

31. Nakano discloses scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel comprising a plurality of dots printed on a surface opposite to the light exit plane of the light guide panel (¶47).

32. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the light scattering configuration of Nakano in the lamp of



Jenkins for the benefit of having elevated light diffusion within a lamp and to further increase the reflective properties of the lamp.

33. Regarding claim 12, Jenkins is silent to a lamp wherein a scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel comprises a plurality of particulates distributed in the light guide panel.

34. However, Nakano discloses a scattering pattern formed on the light guide panel comprises a plurality of particulates distributed in the light guide panel (4).

35. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the light scattering configuration of Nakano in the lamp of Jenkins for the benefit of having elevated light diffusion within a lamp and to further increase the reflective properties of the lamp.

36. In reference to claim 13, Jenkins is silent to a lamp wherein the particulates on a light guide plate are bubbles.

37. Nakano discloses particulates that are bubbles (¶47).

38. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the light scattering configuration of Nakano in the lamp of Jenkins for the benefit of having elevated light diffusion within a lamp and to further increase the reflective properties of the lamp.

***Prior Art***

39. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Chase, et al. (PG Pub 2001/0040811) discloses a sealed headlamp.

**Conclusion**

40. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristen A. Manskar whose telephone number is (571) 270-1220. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30a.m.-5p.m..

41. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

42. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Patent Examiner  
TC 2800*